

BY LINTON BATES, JR. Fradual infiltration into Mongolia Russia's gradual inflitration into Mon-esagine its annexation, was described in ad to China," published last year by hative eart to liga, the

The Russian advance has been always eastward, towards an ice-free on the Pacific. Cut off by Japanese, the one outlet how for Rusthrough Mongolia, striking straight for Pekin and the heart of

tea trade. Here is the shortest route from Europe to the East. Here, through the deflies and the broken for hills of the Gobi Plateau, lies the great unfettered land route to North China-The Chinese before the recent troubles pateit. They have already built into To this trading centre across a Russian radway may yet

MAPSKOWING

AUSSIA'S RELATION TOMONGOLIA

The control of the co

man, with puffy cheeks and tired eyes. man, with pury cheeks and tired eyes. The European watch which he carries hangs in anomalous awkwardness at the breast of his robe; his leg is propped on the front seat, saif he were lame. Most turn their backs to him in Oriental honoring; many prostrate themselves in the snow; every lower themselves in the snow; every

man in the square has dismounted.
"He drives from his palace beside the
Holy Mountain to the temple on the
hill beyond the city," says the woolmerchant. merchant.

"But who is it?" we ask, as the last galloper rides by.

The Russian looks at us as an old Roman might, if in the Forum we had not recognized Cæsar.

at! That's Gigin, the Living That's Buddha come back to earth—the Kutuktu."

The old-time Chinese dealers at Urga

grew enormously wealthy in the tea trade to Kiahta. These have mostly gone back to China. But there are gone back to China. But there are still a number of the better class merchants whose wares are sold to the traders and by them to the Mongols. The house of Liu-Shang-Yuan claims two hundred years of establishment. The Urga people are still prosperous, for great sums in religious tribute come from all Mongolia to this Lourdes of Lamaism. There are also many Chinamen who make large profits from wool. Of a total trade in Urga estimated at twenty-five million roubles per year, nine-tenths is in the hands of Celes-

HOW TOKIO USHERS IN THE NEW YEAR

Sober Streets Bloom Into Color and Become a Playground for Children.

FESTIVAL LASTS TWO WEEKS and going of high life. At 9.30 a. m. the

January.

Madame Ozaki, wife of the wives are received in court dress. ayor of Japan's capital. "Generally "Meanwhile the children are having

fringer and lappets of white paper, western counterpart.

There is the 'kade-matsu,' a decora- "The Japanese girl's 'battleboard,'

Religious Ceremonies at the Palace Daily the nobility and imperial nominees to Until the Eighth of the House of Peers and their wives; Who shall describe the streets of of high rank and wives. At 2 o'clock on New Year's morning?" the foreign representatives and their

of brownish gray rows of a fine time in the streets. Little girls, at ried houses, low-roofed, wide- and big ones, too, dressed in their pretand broken only occasionally tiest clothes, are out playing battledore two-storied house or some ugly and shuttlecock. Some of the faces are smudged with white or red paint at New Year's the chrysalis or black ink, and once in a way a esto a butterfly of color and or- player will smack her vis-a-vis with From every gateway her 'hago-ita,' or battledore net. These flutter two flags of the Rising Sun, are the various penalties for missing The streets become vistas of waving the shuttlecock, which is smaller and bamboo caplings, pine branches, straw far more delicately made than its

completing of hamboo or pine too, is a thing of heavty. It is made branches planted on each side of the of soft white wood and the reverse gateway. The custom of plant- side is covered with beautiful appliqued bine branches is 300 years old. figures of many of the beacon lights patronized in succeeding years. "The streets of the city have the ap- of her history. Scarlet crape and soft

large as 36 feet square are mounted 'hatsuni, th dexterity, and all the world and sent out swife turn out to see the feat. One dealers.

erowded thoroughfares of Asakusa, the busiest district of Tokyo. This is the the harbinger of fortune in the shape thatsun, or first distribution of goods of a droll little hawker like a smokesent out by the merchants to the retail blue gnome.

parance of a huse playground." says Madame Ozak: in the "Independent." for the New Year is the one Sabbath of the year. The shops are not closed, but blinds made of slatted bamboo are hung up to show that blinds made of slatted bamboo are hung up to show that blinds made of slatted bamboo are hung up to show that blinds made of slatted bamboo are hung up to show that blinds made of slatted bamboo are hung up to show that blinds made of slatted bamboo are hung up to show that blinds made of slatted bamboo are hung up to show that blinds and the sales of the same of

Los Angeles. It is not the earthquake that obtains in so cities of the coast that against high buildings, but a has a right as 26 feet square are mounted with deverity, and all the world and his wife turn out to see the feat. One such kite requires a company of hands to manage it. The string is covered with ground glass and the company try to so maneavre their string as to cut down all competitors.

The targe and strong were the fastion as the dealers. Large wagons heaped with the merchandise and drawn by builts or horses are decorated with banners, on a picture sketched in Indian ink on a picture sketched in Indian ink on a picture sketched in Indian ink of the constitutions of the same of the fastion of the serving as to cut down all competitors.

The seven gods of luck, the Rising is the their great and the interpolation of the serving as the facility spice.

The seven gods of luck, the Rising is the properties of the fastion of the serving in the facility spice of the season ride dealers. Large wagons heaped with the merchandise and drawn by builts or horses are decorated with banners, on a picture sketched in Indian ink on a picture. Lucky indeed are those who served the same than a picture sheet in the fall than the serving in the same than a picture sketched in Indian ink on a picture sketched in Indian ink on a picture sketched in Indian ink on the picture sketched in Indian ink on the